GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4686
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2002
MEDICINE UNDER PRICE CONTROL
K. MURALEEDHARAN;MOHAN RAWALE;YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a new list of drugs under price control comprising only 33 drugs as compared to the present 74 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether any life saving drugs have also been expected from the present list ;

(d) if so, the details in this regard ;

(e) whether the Government are aware of the hardships of common man due to the huge price hike of life saving drugs caused when the price control was expected earlier ;

(f) if so, whether the Government have taken / propose to take any steps to safeguard the interest of common man while exception of medicine from price control ; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) to (d) : Do not arise in view of reply to (a), as above.

(e) to (g) : Government have recently announced the `Pharmaceutical Policy2002`. The main objectives of this Policy are, inter-alia, ensuring abundant availability at reasonable prices within the country of good quality essential pharmaceuticals of mass consumption and strengthening the indigenous capability for cost effective quality production. The Policy provides foridentifying the drugs for price regulation out of the 279 items appearing in the alphabetical list of Essential Drugs in NationalEssential Drugs List (1996) ofthe Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the 173 items, which areconsidered important by that Ministry from the point of view of their use in various Health Programmes, in emergency care etc., with the exclusiontherefrom of sera & vaccines, blood products, combinations etc,. There would be monitoring of price movement in other cases.